(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) to (c) There are specific provisions under the Antarctica Treaty for modification or amendment of the same. As far as we are aware, there has been no move for any such modification or amendment presented to the depositories or the contracting parties.

The question of India's opposition, therefore, does not arise.

Production of super computers

250. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state::

(a) whether Government propose to start a project to produce indigenously technical know-how based on super computers;

(b) whether Government propose to seek assistance from countries which have developed this technology;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the details thereof; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No, Sir, the Government does not propose to start a project at present to produce indigenously technical knowhow based super computers.

(b) No, Sir, the Government does not propose to seek assistance from the countries which have developed this technology.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Presently the demand for super computers in the country does not justify setting up of a manufacturing base in the country.

Development of Hill areas of Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh

251. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the request of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for the Central asssistance for the development of its hill areas of Eastern Ghats;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if the answer to the Part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b and (c) At present, hill areas in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and in the Western Ghats region falling in the States of Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Goa are covered under the Hill Area Development Programme and are being provided with Special Central Assistance.

2 The question of delineation of hill areas on scientific lines was under consideration of a Sub-Group of the Working group on Hill Areas set up in the context of Seventh Five Year Plan. The Sub-Group, *inter alia* recommended the following criteria for identifying new areas:

(i) areas with average slope of 30 per cent and above may be treated as hill areas;

(ii) developmental blocks/talukas with 40 per cent of their geogra-

phical areas with an average slope of 30 per cent or more may be designated as hill blocks/taluks; and

(iii) Compact regions with geographical area of 100 sq. kms. or more within a block or located in more than one administrative unit may be designated as mini-hill-tracts.

3. The Sub-Group has, however, recommended that the present coverage of the Hill Areas Development Programme (HADP) may not be disturbed.

4. In its meeting held on 24-5-85, the Working Group on Hill Areas felt that a view on the criteria will have to be taken after undertaking mapping exercises based thereon and, further, some flexibility in terms of altitude may have to be built in. The report of the Working Group is to be placed before the Planning Commission for consideration.

5. The question of inclusion of new areas under the HADP will be considered by the Planning Commission in the light of the above. The request of Andhra Pradesh for inclusion of Eastern Ghats under the HADP will be taken into consideration at the appropriate time.

Compensation paid to the victims of the air accidents

252. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount and the details of the compensation to be paid to the victims suffering loss of limbs or permanent disability and to the next of the kin of those who die in the air accidents involving the Air India, Indian Airlines, Vayudoot and planes operated by public sector undertakings, private companies and individual owners; and

(b) the details of accidents and payments made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) *International Carriage*:

The amount of compensation payable to the passenger in the event of wounding or his suffering any bodily injury or to his heirs in the event of his death, is governed by the Warsaw Convention, 1929 as amended by the Hague Protocol, 1955 as incorporated in the Carriage by Air Act, 1972.

In terms of the provision of Article 22(1) of the 1st Schedule to the said Act, the liability of a carrier for each passenger is limited to the sum of 1,25,000 Francs if the carriage is between the territories of two contracting parties to the original Warsaw Convention. 1929 and 2,50,000 Francs if the carriage is between the territories of the state parties to the Warsaw Convention as amended by the Hakue Protocol. The sum mentioned in Francs refer to a currency unit consisting of 65.5 milligrams of gold of millesimal of fineness 900. Conversion of this sum into national currency other than gold shall be made according to the gold value at the date of the judgement by the Court seized of the case.

Non-International (Domestic) Carriage:

In the event of the death of a passenger or any bodily injury or wound suffered by him which results in a permanent disablement incapacitating him from engaging in or being occupied with his usual duties or business or occupation the liability of the carrier for each passenger shall be Rs. 2 lakhs if the passenger is 12 or more years of age and Rs. 1 lakh if the passenger is below 12 years of age on the date of accident.